Wildlife

Decision Number 1

Provide forage for big game animals as listed in Table M-1.

Rationale

This forage allocation will allow for an increase in big game numbers as projected by the Idaho Department of Fish and Game. The public lands only supply a proportionate share of the needed forage. The remainder will be produced by private and state lands. Competition for forage between big game and livestock is only about 7 percent based on dietary overlap.

Decision Number 2

Manage major deer migration routes to minimumize impedance to big game. Facilities such as fences, right-of-way facilities, and buildings will be constructed in such a way as to have a minimal effect. Bureau fencing specifications will be used, which are designed to minimize impacts on big game habitat.

Rationale

The big game migration routes are important for the maintenance of healthy populations. These corridors can be managed for big game with a minimal impact to other resources.

Decision Number 3

All crucial deer and elk ranges will be managed for the needs of the animals, within the allocation limit. Vegetation manipulation, including timber harvest, will only be done where there are minimal adverse impacts on the crucial habitat.

Rationale

All crucial habitats are essential for the survival of the expected populations. Disruption of these areas can cause severe hardships, including starvation, for the big game.

Decision Number 4

All seedings in wildlife areas will have a seed mixture that provides forbs and shrubs (if needed and adaptable) and a mixture of appropriate grasses.

Rationale

Seed mixtures, particularly with appropriate forbs and/or shrubs, will increase the value of the area for wildlife as well as increase livestock forage and stabilize soil conditions.

Decision Number 5

Riparian areas will be given special attention. All riparian areas in poor condition will be improved to at least fair condition. All others will be maintained or improved.

Rationale

Riparian areas are particularly important to a large number of wildlife species. These areas are also very productive for livestock forage and, if abused, can cause severe erosion and sedimentation problems.

Decision Number 6

Streams will receive special attention. Appropriate management techniques will be used to improve stream bank vegetation to at least fair to good condition. The major streams are:

Argåsy Creek
Cold Spring Creek
Copper Creek
Left Fork of Copper Creek
Fish Creek
Fisher Canyon
Friedman Creek
Lava Creek
Lime Creek
Little Fish Creek
Little Wood River
Long Canyon
Muldoon Creek
Porkupine Creek
Sheep Creek
Silver Creek
Spring Creek
Thompson Creek
Timber Gulch Creek
Trail Creek

Rationale

Many of these streams presently have fish populations or have the potential for a fishery. The goal is to improve an area in poor condition or with

erosion problems to improve habitat quality. All of these streams provide important water sources, and adjacent riparian areas provide important wildlife habitat.

Decision Number 7

Protect raptor habitat to the extent practical.

Rationale

Raptors are an important segment of the wildlife population. Some species are particularly sensitive to man's presence.

Areas of Critical Environmental Concern (ACEC)

Decision Number 1

The Elk Mountain Crucial Elk Winter Range will be managed as an ACEC. The major management concern is protection of winter habitat for elk; however, all present uses of the area will be continued unless significant impacts are identified. Increases or changes in use may be denied if they would be detrimental.

Acreage Public 7753.89
State 1613.14
Private 2520.27
Total 11,887.25 EC 6/6/84

Rationale

The Elk Mountain area is a crucial elk winter range for a large, productive herd of elk. The habitat conditions are good at the present time. Only positive comments were received from the public contacts. The special designation will give special attention to the area while maintaining multiple use and without putting unreasonable restrictions on the other users of the public lands.

Visual Resources Management (VRM)

Decision Number 1

Manage all areas along a travel influence zone in a visual resource class III (see MFP 3 Overlay).

Rationale

These areas have scenic quality, but include a number of existing man-made influences such as roads, power lines, and fences. Some of the areas are in general view from the Craters of the Moon National Monument. This class allows for some modification, but much care will be taken to minimize any visual impacts. Mitigating measures include the location, shape, height, etc. of various improvements.

Decision Number 2

The remainder of the unit will be managed in a visual resource class IV (see MFP Overlay), except for wilderness study areas, which are managed as VRM Class I. Care will be taken to minimize the adverse impacts to the extent practicable.

Rationale

This unit has moderate to low scenic qualities. Although substantial detraction from the scenic quality is allowed, all work will be designed to reduce the adverse impacts. BLM policy requires that WSAs be in Class I.

Off-Road Vehicles (ORVs)

Decision Number 1

The Elk Mountain Crucial Elk Winter Range and ACEC will be closed to ORV use.

Rationale

This is a roadless area and a portion is presently in Wilderness Study Area status. The area is steep with a severe erosion hazard, which would result in increased erosion if ORVs are allowed. Winter closure will protect wintering elk from disturbance.

Decision Number 2

Designate all other crucial big game ranges as "limited" for ORVs. Normally allow ORV use only from May 1 to November 30. However, these

areas may be evaluated for permitted events, and if no adverse impacts are anticipated, a permit may be issued.

Rationale

Disturbance of big game when under stress of winter conditions is particularly hard on the animals. Events may be allowed if it is determined that the animals are not along the course or will not be disturbed. Should problems arise, appropriate action will be taken.

Decision Number 3

The Dry Creek Springs area will be limited to designated roads and trails and open to over-snow vehicles.

Rationale

The Dry Creek Spring area is an area of known and/or suspected archaeological values. Using the designated roads will minimize impacts, and over-snow vehicles will have no impact on these values.

Decision Number 4

The Friedman Creek area will be limited to designated roads and trails and over-snow vehicles.

Rationale

The Friedman Creek area has few roads in it and contains scenic and wildlife values. Over-snow vehicles will not damage the area.

Decision Number 5

The remainder of the unit will be open to ORVs.

Rationale

The rest of the unit will be monitored to determine if any significant problems develop in the future. No problems presently exist.

Recreation

Decision Number 1

Provide for all types of winter sports, including plowed access routes and parking, designated routes or trails, and restrictions. Develop proper guidelines for the particular type of sport, whether cross-country skiing or snowmobiling.

Rationale

The area provides potential for many types of winter sports. The greatest present demand is for snowmobile use. This use is causing minimal environmental problems.

Cultural Resources

Decision Number 1

The Dry Creek Springs area is recognized as an area of cultural resource values. This is an area of concentrated, potentially valuable cultural resources. Particular attention will be paid to the cultural resource values in this area.

Rationale

The Dry Creek Spring area has a concentration of cultural resources and needs particular attention to protect these resources.

Fire Management

Decision Number 1

Wildfires starting between June 1 and September 30 will be suppressed as quickly as possible. Modified suppression may be used during the rest of the year and will consider:

a. Potential effects of the burn including beneficial and adverse.

b. Potential size of the fire.

c. Cost of suppression.

d. An adequate prescription

e. Monitoring of the fire from the initial report until it is out.

f. Fuel type in which the fire is burning. Timber fires will be suppressed.

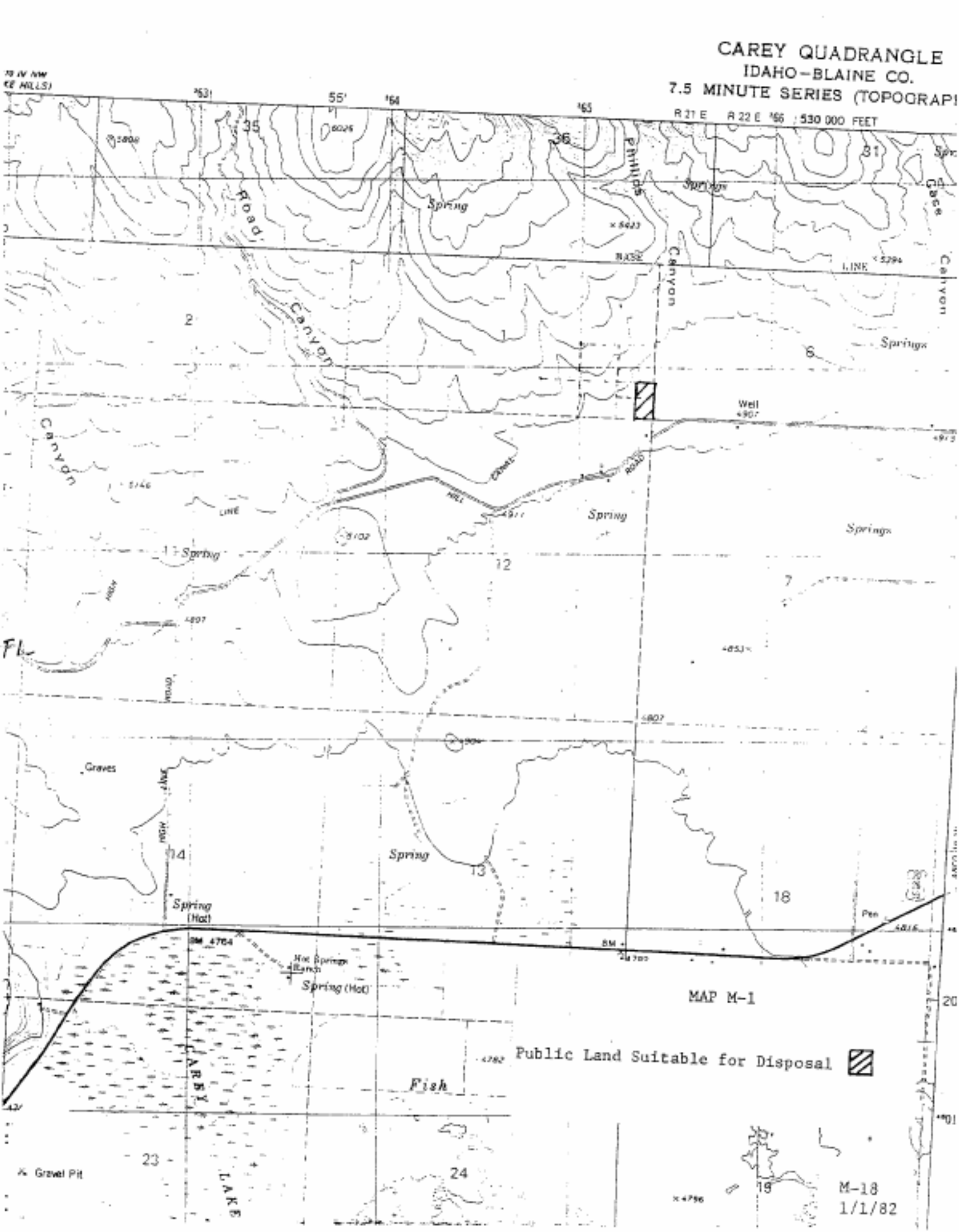
Rationale

Fall and spring burning can be very beneficial to forage production and diversity, wildlife habitat, watershed condition, etc. Generally ridge tops become effective fire lines, preventing fires from getting larger. Cool nights help suppress fires in the sagebrush communities.

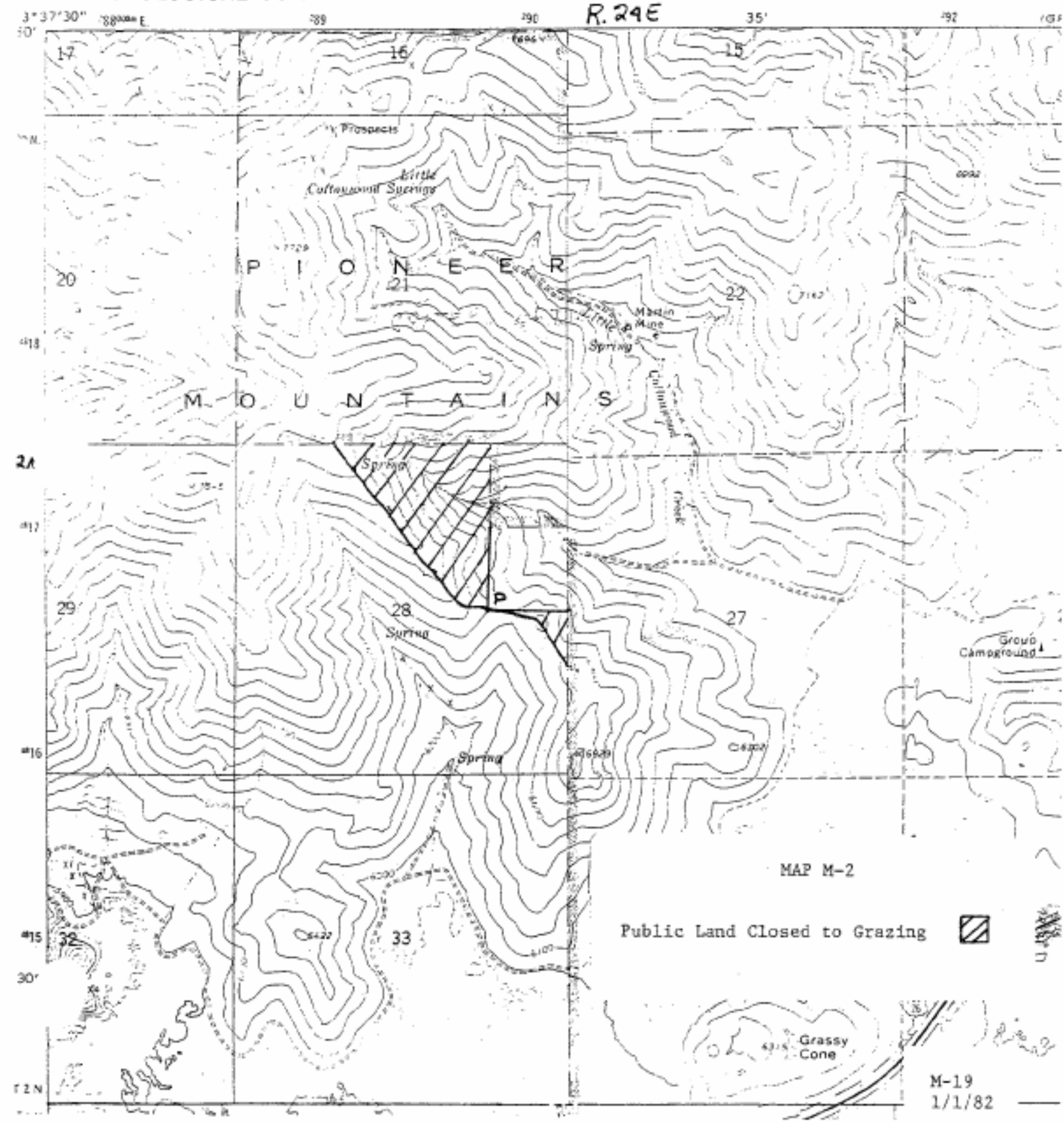
TABLE M-1

DEER, ELK, AND ANTELOPE SEASONAL USE
BY GRAZING ALLOTMENT
ON PUBLIC LANDS IN THE MULDOON ANALYSIS UNIT

Allotment	DEER MONTHS SUMMER May 1-Oct 30	DEER MONTHS MIGRATION Apr 16-Apr 30 Nov 1-Nov 14	DEER MONTHS WINTER Nov 15-Apr 15	ELK MONTHS SUMMER May 1 Oct 30	ELK MONTHS WINTER Nov 15-Apr 14	ANTELOPE MONTHS SUMMER Mar 1-Sept 30
Baird	66					45
Baptie	91	10				59
Barton	101					
Cottonwood	406					
Crater	396					
Dry Creek	1098	171	2773			
East Fork	604		19			12
Elk Mountain	116			3	64	
Flat Top Sheep Co.	3211		500			
West Pasture		204				286
East Pasture						495
H & S	61					
Hailey Creek	302	36				
Iron Mine	827					
Lava Lake	884					176
Little	58	7				
Little Fish Creek	131					37
Little Wood	366	43		14	349	
McFarland	70					
Muldoon	616	72		7	166	43
North 40	15					10
Queens Crown	12	49	3469			
Road Canyon	482					
Rocky Bar	73	10				41
Shale	34					20
Sheep Creek	488	59		10	235	
Silver Creek		39	98			
Simpson	12					
South 120	12					
Spring Creek	180	20		4	99	
Stocking	235					
Telfer	18					
Timber Butte	613		318			192
Trail Creek	290					
Upper Fish Creek	192					
West Fork Fish Creek	143					7
Woodbury	88					
Totals	12291	739	7158	38	913	1423


CAREY QUADRANGLE
IDAHO–BLAINE CO.
7.5 MINUTE SERIES (TOPOGRAPI
R 21 E
R 22 E
530 000 FEET
Phillips Canyon
Spring
Springs
Well
Graves
Spring (Hot)
Hot Springs Ranch
Fish
LAKE
Gravel Pit
MAP M-1
Public Land Suitable for Disposal
M-18
1/1/82

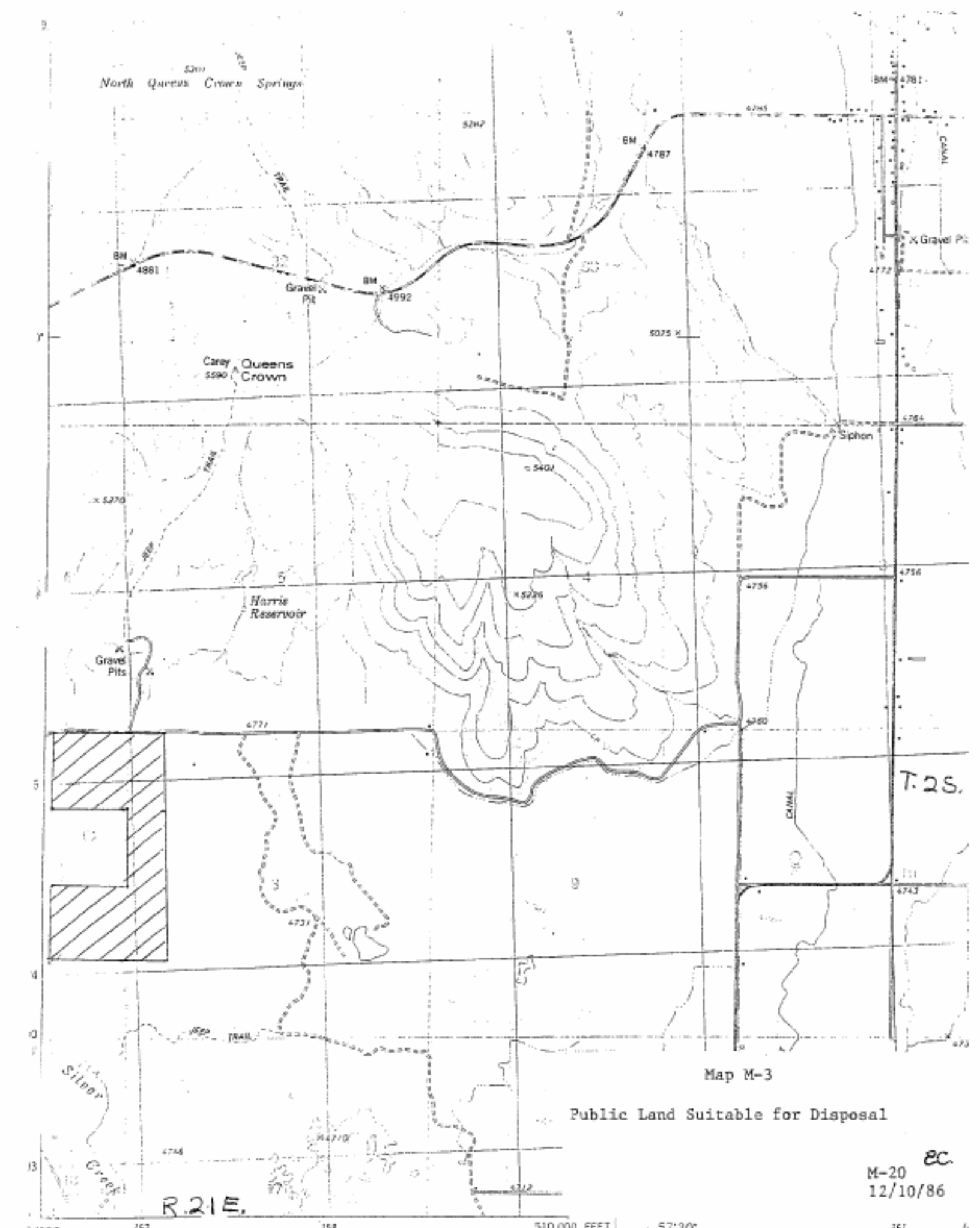
UNITED STATES
DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR
GEOLOGICAL SURVEY



MAP M-2

Public Land Closed to Grazing

M-19
1/1/82



Map M-3

Public Land Suitable for Disposal

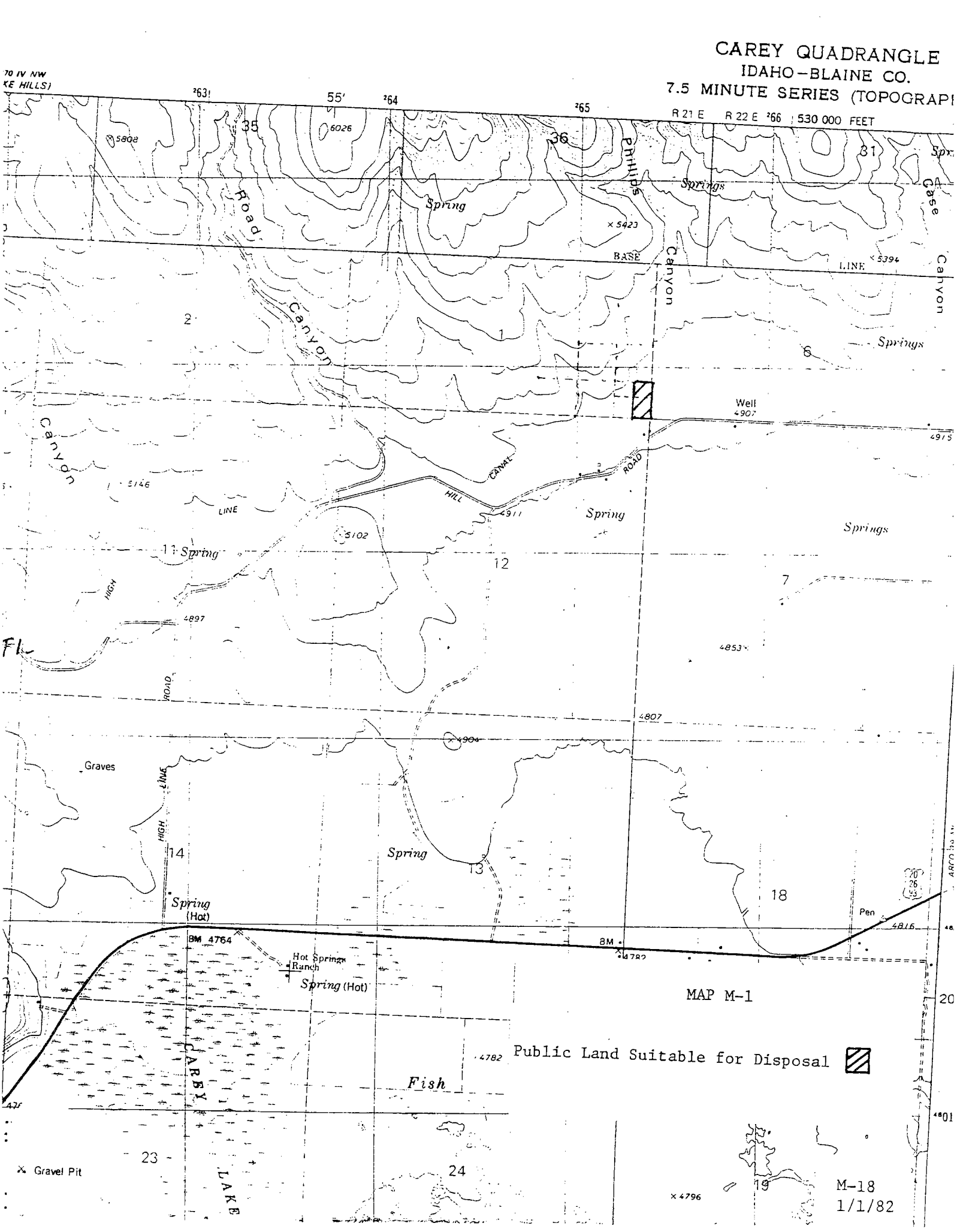
ec.

M-20
12/10/86

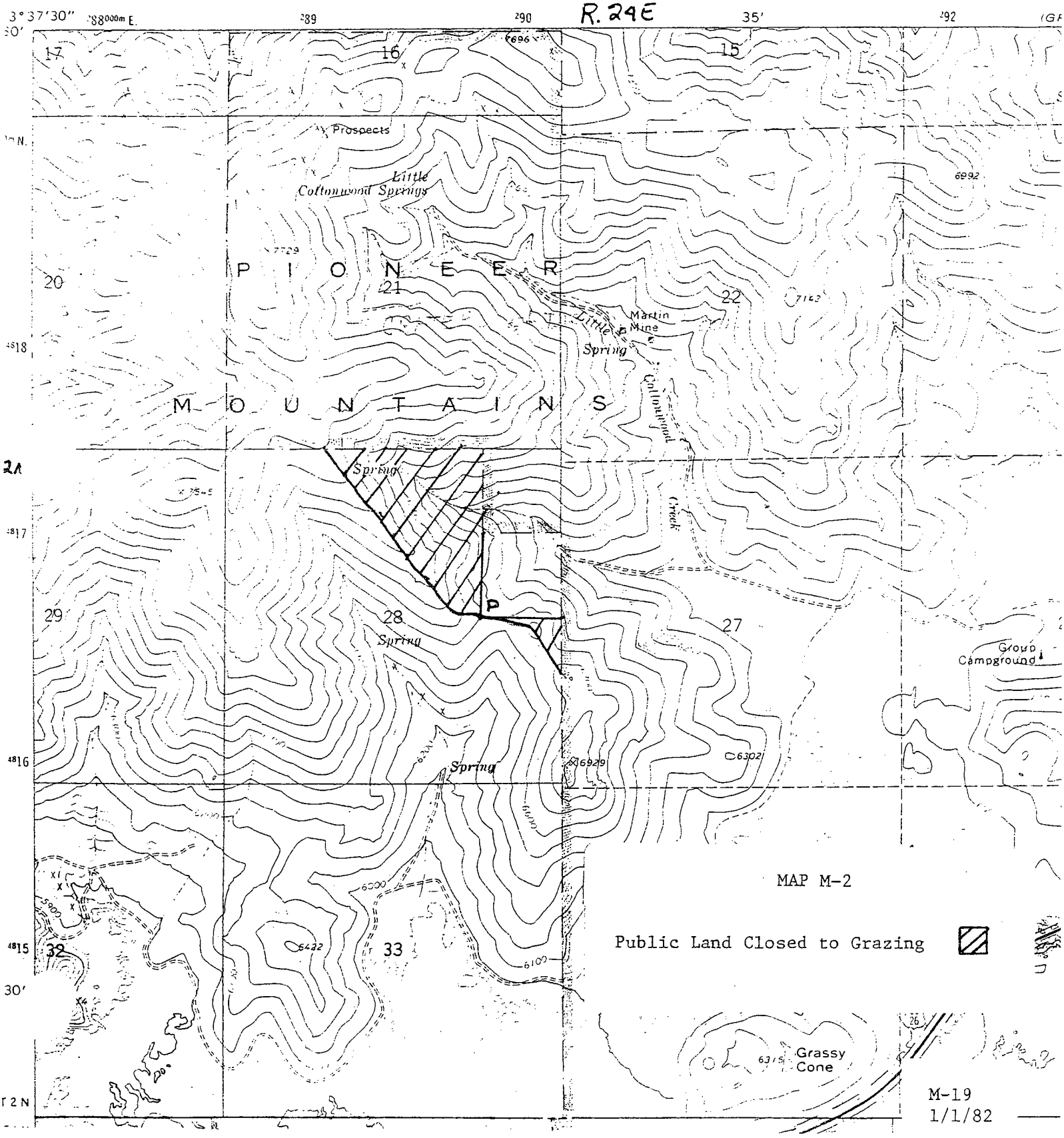
TABLE M-1

DEER, ELK, AND ANTELOPE SEASONAL USE
BY GRAZING ALLOTMENT
ON PUBLIC LANDS IN THE MULDOON ANALYSIS UNIT

Allotment	DEER MONTHS SUMMER May 1-Oct 30	DEER MONTHS MIGRATION Apr 16-Apr 30 Nov 1-Nov 14	DEER MONTHS WINTER Nov 15-Apr 15	ELK MONTHS SUMMER May 1 Oct 30	ELK MONTHS WINTER Nov 15-Apr 14	ANTELOPE MONTHS SUMMER Mar 1-Sept 30
Baird	66					45
Baptie	91	10				59
Barton	101					
Cottonwood	406					
Crater	396					
Dry Creek	1098	171	2773			
East Fork	604		19			12
Elk Mountain	116			3	64	
Flat Top Sheep Co.	3211		500			
West Pasture		204				286
East Pasture						495
H & S	61					
Hailey Creek	302	36				
Iron Mine	827					
Lava Lake	884					176
Little	58	7				
Little Fish Creek	131					37
Little Wood	366	43		14	349	
McFarland	70					
Muldoon	616	72		7	166	43
North 40	15					10
Queens Crown	12	49	3469			
Road Canyon	482					
Rocky Bar	73	10				41
Shale	34					20
Sheep Creek	488	59		10	235	
Silver Creek		39	98			
Simpson	12					
South 120	12					
Spring Creek	180	20		4	99	
Stocking	235					
Telfer	18					
Timber Butte	613		318			192
Trail Creek	290					
Upper Fish Creek	192					
West Fork Fish Creek	143					7
Woodbury	88					
Totals	12291	739	7158	38	913	1423


CAREY QUADRANGLE
IDAHO–BLAINE CO.
7.5 MINUTE SERIES (TOPOGRAPI
R 21 E
R 22 E
530 000 FEET
Road
Canyon
Phillips
Springs
Spring
BASE LINE
Well
4907
CANAL
ROAD
HILL
HIGH
LINE
Graves
Spring (Hot)
BM 4764
Hot Springs Ranch
Spring (Hot)
Pen
4816
BM
4782
CAREY
LAKE
Fish
Gravel Pit
MAP M-1
Public Land Suitable for Disposal
M-18
1/1/82

UNITED STATES
DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR
GEOLOGICAL SURVEY



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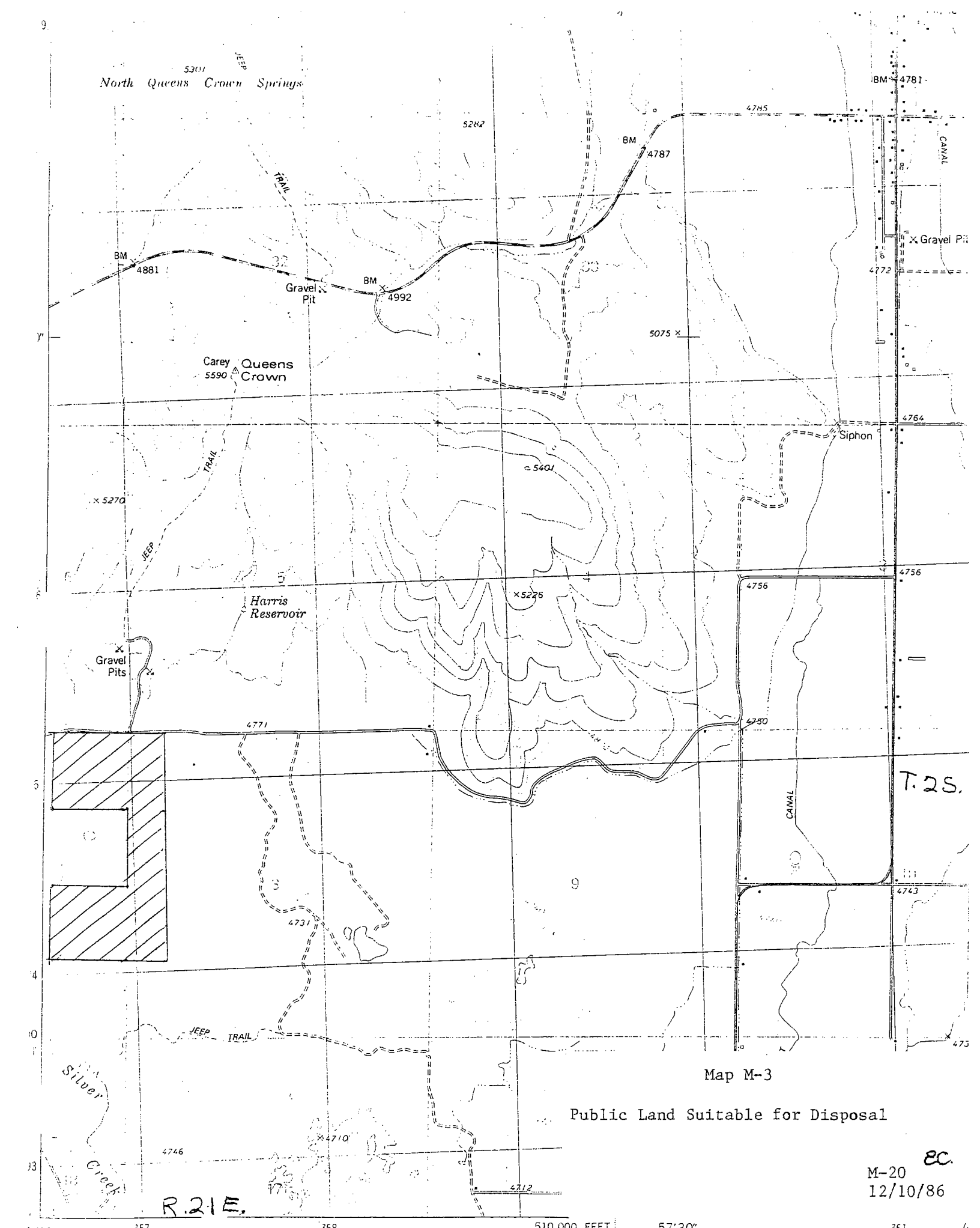
1/1/82



Map M-3

Public Land Suitable for Disposal

ec.

M-20
12/10/86